GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:338
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2016
Water Act
Chowdhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any statutory report regarding certain legal and policy related shortcomings existing in the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
(c) whether the Government has any proposal to redefine the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to check rising water pollution and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) whether the Government is likely to increase the ceiling of monetary penalty in the said Act in the matter related to water pollution and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)to (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had constituted a High Level Committee, under the Chairmanship of Shri T.S.R. Subramanian, to undertake a review of functioning of the forest, wildlife and environment related statutes viz Environment (Protection) Act, 1986; Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972; Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Indian Forests Act, 1927, with the objective of aligning the current legal framework with the requirements of the future. The Committee has submitted its report to the Ministry and the Ministry has initiated the examination of the report. The Ministry periodically reviews its policies for prevention and control of water pollution which includes notifying stricter standards for various industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Action has been initiated, inter-alia, to review the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, for further strengthening the mechanism of protecting and improving the quality of environment and for preventing and controlling environmental pollution.

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